

DEPARTMENT 2121

FINE ARTS DIVISION - AMATEUR

GENERAL INFORMATION

Chairperson: Amanda Guerino

Contact Information: topsfieldart@gmail.com

IMPORTANT DATES

Entry Form Due: Monday, September 7th, 2026

Entry Receiving: Saturday, September 12th, 2026

(12-4:00pm) & Sunday, September 13th, 2026 (12-4:00pm)

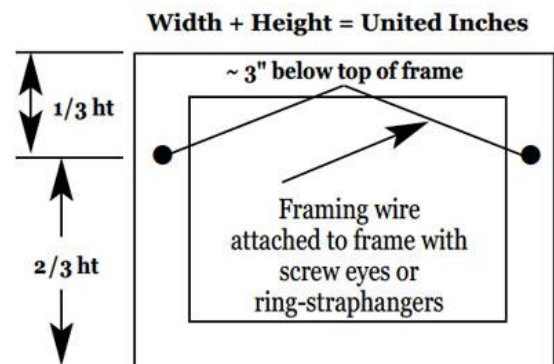
Entry Pick Up: Tuesday, October 13th, 2026 (2-6:00pm)

Entry Fee: \$5.00 (**one entry per person ONLY**), (*online only*) **\$3.00 per exhibitor**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- RULES:** Amateurs are non-professionals who do not benefit from financial gain for the sale of their artwork. Entry form and fee must be received by September 7th, 2026. **One (1) entry per person in the Amateur Division.** You may enter either online or by mailing the form and the fee to: Topsfield Fair, P.O. Box 134, Topsfield, MA 01983.
- FEES:** Each entry in the Amateur juried art competition requires a \$5.00 entry fee. Entry fee must be submitted with official entry form. Payable online or by check/cash and mailed to: Topsfield Fair, P.O. Box 134, Topsfield, MA 01983. Please make check out to: Essex Agricultural Society. Fees are non-refundable and donated to the Essex Agricultural Society.
- ORIGINALITY:** Artwork must be original, recent and not previously exhibited at the Fair. Artwork derived from another artist's work, such as calendars, magazines, computer images, or any images of another artist's work is considered original. Copies, reproductions AI images, will not be accepted for the juried exhibition.
- LIABILITY:** Artwork is on display in a building that is open to the public. It is recommended that all artists insure their own work for the duration of the show. The Topsfield Fair is not responsible for any loss, damage, or stolen artwork.
- JURIED ENTRY IDENTIFICATION:** All juried completion entries must be clearly labeled **on the top back of artwork** with the following information:
 - **Amateur Division**
 - **Age Group (see Entry Form)**
 - **Artist's Name**
 - **Telephone #**
 - **"Title"**
 - **Medium (Classification list on Entry Form)**

- JURIED ENTRIES:** Amateur juried exhibition entries are limited to **1 entry**. **Overall frame size should not exceed 48 united inches (height + width)** *Example **11" x 14" frame is 25" united inches**, this includes frame. *Due to the large number of entries, oversize work can not be accepted.*
- JURIED EXHIBITION:** A professional panel of judges selects ribbon & premium winners based on artistic merit, which includes:
 - **Originality**
 - **Composition**
 - **Color and Value**
 - **Technique of the medium**
 - **Presentation (mat/frame)**The Fine Arts Department and judges reserve the right to reject any entry. Artists will be contacted prior to the opening of the Fair to retrieve unaccepted work.
- FRAMING:** Artwork must be securely framed and wired. Will only accept the following: wood frames with screw eyes/d-rings & wire or metal frames the track for metal hangers and wire. **ATTENTION: (see diagram)** Unsafe or improperly framed artwork, including no glass or thin wire, will not be accepted. Artwork under glass must be matted, includes all photos. **No clip frames, easel back frames, front-loading "pop-in" frames, spring clips or staple frames will be accepted. Please assist all children's artwork. Wrapped canvas is allowed, but must be completely painted on all sides.**



- DO-IT YOURSELF FRAMERS:** For secure frames that hang flat on wall, attach screw eyes or hangers to each side of the frame at one-third the height from the top of frame. Insert Framing Wire through the hangers and secure ends. Top of wire must be 2-3 inches below the top of frame.
- ART DROP-OFF DAYS:** Coolidge Hall will be open to receive artwork on Saturday, September 12th, 2026 and Sunday, September 13th, 2026 from 12:00pm to 4:00pm. The building is then closed to arrange for judging.
- PICK-UP DAY:** All exhibits will be released on Tuesday, October 13th, 2026 from 2:00pm to 6:00pm. Not

responsible for artwork remaining after 6:00pm. Those articles will be moved to the Administration Building for pick-up after Thursday, October 15th, 2026. **After 30 days, artwork becomes property of the Topsfield Fair.**

6. Etching & other Hand Pull Prints (Linoleum, Monoprint, Silkscreen, Wood Block)
7. Computer Graphics

Come and learn about the Topsfield Fair Fine Arts Exhibit! Amateur artists (aged 18 and older) are encouraged to volunteer to monitor the exhibition during the Fair. Please indicate your volunteer interest on entry form. Volunteer schedule will be posted at the Art Drop-Off Days (9/12/26 & 9/13/26) as well. Each volunteer will receive admission to enter the fairgrounds.

PHOTOGRAPHY

CLASS C

8. Color/Black & White

AGE GROUPS

- Sub-Jr. (8 years and younger)
- Mid-Jr. (9-13 years of age)
- Junior (14-17 years of age)
- Adult (18 years and older)

OFFICIAL RULES

Topsfield Fair General Rules & Information

DIVISIONS AND CLASSES

Awards:

BEST OF SHOW \$13.00

BEST OF CATEGORY \$11.00

FIRST \$10.00

SECOND \$8.00

THIRD \$6.00

HONORABLE MENTION \$5.00

ONLY one (1) entry per person in the Amateur Division.

Please choose the specific category of your entry:

PAINTING

CLASS A

1. Oil/Acrylic
2. Watercolors
3. Pastel (Soft Pastels or Oil Pastels)
4. Mixed Media (Only Paint with Ink, Pencil, Pastel, etc.)

GRAPHICS

CLASS B

5. Drawing (Charcoal, Crayons, Markers, Pencils, Pen & Ink)